

Sixteenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding supply of safe drinking water in the country - Laid

SHRI K. ASHOK KUMAR (KRISHNAGIRI): India has the world's largest number of people without access to safe drinking water. About 5% of the India's total population are yet to be provided with safe drinking water. The country registers many deaths annually due to diarrhoea and other water borne diseases. Several parts of the country are facing acute water crisis and even in urban areas people are often forced to drink contaminated water. Mismanagement including misappropriation in planning and execution of water supply projects is another key factor. Because of this water crisis, communities fall back on a single or distant source of drinking water, often leading to disputes and increased discrimination against the main water fetchers, particularly women. In the developed world, a standard water bill is merely 0.1% of the total income. But in India, anyone dependent on a water vendor would end up spending around 17% of their daily income for the drinking water needs of the families.

Therefore, I urge upon the Union Government to take an appropriate step to provide safe drinking water to each and every person in this country.